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Monday, December 11, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

FEAR AND HUMOR

Seth Rogen plays on all our fears as he avenges the universe. 14-15

12 Days of Christmas in Philly and beyond. 16-19

Philly stars come out for Gambles. 4

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WIT OR WITOUT

With Carson Wentz sidelined with a third quarter knee injury (after throwing four touchdown passes), Nick Foles stepped in to lead the Eagles to an NFC East crown Sunday. 22

GETTY IMAGES

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

EVAN MACY, SPORTS EDITOR

More news will break on Carson Wentz in the coming days, but ESPN's Adam Schefter reports that the Eagles fear he has a torn ACL. If Wentz's season is over the Eagles' Super Bowl chances could be too. It's remarkable to think that he ran three plays after the injury, including a go-ahead touchdown pass to Alshon Jeffery. Wentz is the real deal, injured or not. **More on page 22.**

NEW EVACUATIONS AS CALIF. WILDFIRES RAGE ON

1 The largest California wildfire advanced on coastal towns near Santa Barbara on Sunday, stoked by the gusty winds and dry conditions that have fueled destructive blazes across the state's southern region. Authorities ordered residents in parts of Carpinteria and Montecito to evacuate early on Sunday as the Thomas Fire edged closer to the city of Santa Barbara, about 100 miles west of Los Angeles. The blaze has already blackened 155,000 acres and consumed hundreds of structures. Some half-dozen fires have raged across California since early last week. At least one home in Carpinteria burned down on Sunday, the Santa Barbara County Fire Department said. The fire was only 15 percent contained as of Sunday morning, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

PALESTINIAN STABS ISRAELI IN JERUSALEM

2 A Palestinian stabbed an Israeli security guard at Jerusalem's main bus station on Sunday, police said, and violence flared near the U.S. Embassy in Beirut over President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Four days of street protests in the Palestinian territories over Trump's announcement on Wednesday have largely died down, but his overturning of long-standing U.S. policy on Jerusalem -- a city holy to Jews, Muslims and Christians -- drew more Arab warnings of potential damage to prospects for Middle East peace. "Our hope is that everything is calming down and that we are returning to a path of normal life without riots and without violence," Israeli Defence Minister Avigdor Lieberman said on Army Radio.

GETTY IMAGES

CALIFORNIA DREAMING

3 A Philadelphia Eagles fan is seen during Sunday's game against the Los Angeles Rams at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

SCULPTOR CHOSEN FOR NEW DIANA STATUE

4 A sculptor who produced the image of Queen Elizabeth used on Britain's coins has been chosen to create a new statue of Princess Diana, the office of Princes William and Harry said on Sunday, to commemorate 20 years since her death. Ian Rank-Broadley, whose effigy of the Queen has appeared on all UK and Commonwealth coinage since 1998, will design the statue, which now will not be unveiled until next year. "Ian is an extremely gifted sculptor and we know that he will create a fitting and lasting tribute to our mother," Prince William and his younger brother Harry said in a statement. In January, the brothers commissioned a statue in honor of their mother, who died in a Paris car crash 20 years ago to be erected outside their official London home Kensington Palace.

IRAQ HOLDS PARADE AFTER DEFEATING ISIS

5 An Iraqi military parade in Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone celebrated final victory over Islamic State on Sunday, with Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi looking on as troops marched in formation, their bodies spelling "victory day" in Arabic. Abadi, who is also commander-in-chief of the armed forces, listened solemnly to Quranic verses from a chapter titled al-Nasr, meaning victory. Iraqi forces recaptured the last areas still under Islamic State control along the border with Syria on Saturday and secured the western desert, marking the end of the war against the militants three years after they had captured about a third of Iraq's territory. The forces fighting Islamic State in Iraq and Syria now expect a new phase of guerrilla warfare.

TONY'S METRO MAGIC 2017

Tony's METRO MAGIC

As we enter the season of giving, Metro asks that you donate to Tony's Metro Magic annual holiday toy drive to help underprivileged children in your community. You can donate by visiting metro.us/magic, clicking on the toy wish-list link of your choice, and ordering via a secure payment system. Toys will then be distributed to local children in need.

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Windows Hello: the password is you.

Windows 10 Pro

Philly stars come out for Gambles' 'Evening of Style and Grace'

Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins and other notables attended the star-studded benefit dinner for the Gambles' signature schools, etiquette and culinary arts programs.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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From left, Bernie and Jackie Smalley, Kenny Gamble and Marie & Rudy Battle. ALL PHOTOS MARTIN REGUSTERS

Since 1993, famed Philly music producer Kenny Gamble, half of Philly International's famed Gamble & Huff duo (along with Leon Huff) and his wife Faatimah Gamble have devoted themselves to education and housing through their nonprofit, Universal Companies.

Universal celebrated its 25th anniversary last week with its fifth annual star-studded, gala fashion show and benefit on Dec. 7, attended by Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins and other Philly notables.

Titled "An Evening of Style and Grace — School Days Edition," the fashion show featured celebrity models donning the "latest fashions of Main Line Designer, Frank Agostino along with Les Richard Menswear and Philadelphia Eagles Malcolm Jenkins' bow tie line."

The benefit went to support Universal Pearls of Wisdom (for girls), From Boys to Men (for boys), which are character building and social etiquette programs, as well as Universal Audenried Culinary Academy.

"We teach young men and women about consequences. We help them to aspire," Faatimah Gamble said of the programs, which she first designed 35 years ago. "We give our young scholars proper tools to navigate life's waters, be it culinary arts or dressing properly. All they have to do is be willing to receive the information and process it appropriately."

Universal has built over 1,500 housing units and manages eight charter schools in Philadelphia, educating over 4,000 children, the organization said. "Universal's mission is to create educational, cultural and entrepreneurial opportunities that will stimulate the development of wealth within historically disenfranchised communities."

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Daylin Leach is running in one of the country's most gerrymandered congressional districts. GETTY IMAGES

Democrats eye gains in Pennsylvania trial on 'goofy' gerrymandering

On Monday in state court, one of three lawsuits challenging gerrymandering boundaries heads to trial.

In Pennsylvania state Sen. Daylin Leach's bid to win a seat vital to the Democratic Party's chances in 2018 elections of taking control of the U.S. Congress, his opponents may not be his biggest obstacle.

Leach is running in one of the country's most gerrymandered congressional districts, one with such a twisting, winding shape that it has earned the derisive nickname "Goofy Kicking Donald Duck."

The 7th Congressional District has become a national poster child for critics of gerrymandering, the process by which one party draws district boundaries to ensure an advantage among voters. Democrats say the lines have helped Republicans like U.S. Rep. Patrick Meehan, the four-term incumbent Leach seeks to unseat, to stay in office.

That could soon change, however. On Monday in state court in Harrisburg, one of three lawsuits challenging those boundaries heads to trial. The outcome could shift several battleground districts in Pennsylvania and in turn boost the Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives, where they last held the majority from January 2007 to January 2011.

The 7th District is so precisely engineered that at one point it narrows to the width of a single seafood restaurant, snaking past two other congressional districts so it can link two far flung Republican-leaning areas.

"Three congressional districts all converge on this spot," Leach said from the parking lot at Creed's Seafood and Steaks last week, as cars whizzed overhead on the Pennsylvania Turnpike.

"This is the sixth; over there is the seventh; and down that road is the 13th," he said, pointing in several directions. "This is what gerrymandering looks like on the ground."

Leach has at least four opponents to defeat in the Democratic primary before he would run against Meehan. A spokesman for the Republican did not respond to requests for comment on the trial over gerrymandering.

Critics of gerrymandering say it helps explain why Pennsylvania has sent 13 Republicans and only five Democrats to the U.S. House since the 2011 redistricting, despite being a closely divided swing state.

Republican legislators counter that the lines were drawn in accordance with the law and that their candidates have prevailed in elections thanks to superior policy ideas.

The Democrats have targeted six Republican-held districts in the state as part of their quest to pick up the 24 House seats they need to overturn the Republicans, who also have a Senate majority and President Donald Trump in the White House.

Democrats need to win the nationwide popular vote by at least 10 points in 2018 to do so, in part because of gerrymandered lines, according to Michael Li, a redistricting expert and lawyer at New York University's Brennan Center for Justice.

"Pennsylvania is probably the most aggressive of the gerrymanders," he said. "You look at some of the maps in the Philadelphia suburbs, and it looks like a 4-year-old just slapped paint around." REUTERS

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TEMPLE HEALTH

Another Brady associate pleads guilty

Congressman Bob Brady, right, calls the scandal "total bull." GETTY IMAGES

Another domino appears to have fallen in the intricate web surrounding Philly Democratic party boss and Congressman Bob Brady with another guilty plea in federal court by a former aide.

Donald "D.A." Jones, 62, a longtime political consultant, pleaded guilty Friday to lying to the FBI to conceal an alleged plot by Brady's office to bribe a political rival into dropping out before the 2012 Democratic primary.

Brady has not commented beyond telling a Daily News columnist that the scandal is "total bull."

But it was real to Jones, who was indicted in October along with fellow former Brady strategist Kenneth Smukler, 57 on charges of conspiring to conceal a $90,000 payment in 2012 from Brady's campaign to retired Philly judge Jimmie Moore to drop out of the race for Brady's seat.

"The scheme entailed Moore's agreement to withdraw from the race in exchange for $90,000 in payments from his opponent's campaign," the U.S. Attorney's office of Philadelphia said in a statement.

Smukler has not entered a plea. But Moore and his former campaign manager, Carolyn Cavaness, have both pleaded guilty to lying to the Federal Election Commission. They are both awaiting sentence while reportedly cooperating with the investigation.

The conspirators allegedly" used false invoices to generate a paper trail" that would make the $90,000 alleged bribe look like a legitimate payment in return for political polling services from "Voter Link Data Systems," a company run by Smukler, who subsequently returned the funds to Brady, according to federal prosecutors.

Brady has not yet been charged. SAM NEWHOUSE

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Metro's wish lists include toys for infants through pre-teen children. NIC CZARNECKI

Tony's Metro Magic toy drive is nearing its end

Metro makes it easy to donate with quick links to toy wish lists at ***Metro.us/magic.***

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
@metromorgan
morgan@metro.us

There is still time to donate to Metro's annual toy drive by visiting metro.us/magic and ordering through our secure Target wish lists.

The annual toy drive, dubbed Tony's Metro Magic, helps underprivileged children in your community.

Gifts range from under $5 and up. Toys are delivered to our Metro offices in New York, Boston and Philadelphia through Dec. 15, then distributed to local charities that serve underprivileged children in those cities.

For those donating in New York, toys will go to the Coalition for the Homeless, then distributed to local children. Boston's Heading Home Inc. will receive the toys for that city, and Philadelphia's toys will go to the Institute for the Development of African-American Youth (IDAAY).

If you wish to donate, you can choose the toys, pay online, and your gifts, along with your name attached, will be automatically delivered. The wish lists include toys for infants through pre-teens.

This year marks the eighth anniversary of the toy drive, which is named after Tony Metcalf, Metro's longest-serving editor in chief. Mr. Metcalf oversaw the project for more than four years before passing away in 2013.

Mr. Metcalf lit up every year as he saw the faces of children unwrap their holiday gifts, and it's our goal to keep that magic alive.

"Tony felt we should use the size and scale of Metro to help others and he used enormous dedication and force to execute the project and every year make children in need a little happier during the holiday season," said Metro Chief Executive Officer Yggers Mortensen. "I am proud to continue this project in honor of Tony, and I hope all our readers, suppliers and members of the Metro team will help to make this yet another great Metro Magic year."

Metro is grateful for the toys already received at our offices. They're stacked in the newsroom, and each day the pile grows. We thank readers in advance for remembering the children who will spend the holidays in shelters or who may not have presents to open.

The last day to order toys is this Friday Dec. 15.

This year marks the eighth anniversary of Metro's annual holiday toy drive.
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President Trump's health has again been called into question. GETTY IMAGES

ELLIS HENICAN

Opinion

Ellis Henican is a seasoned observer of the nation's political and social landscape. He has appeared as a commentator on CNN, MSNBC and Fox News. He is a former columnist at Newsday. Follow him @henican.

Do you have any idea what eight hours of television and a dozen Diet Cokes — a day! — can do to a 71-year-old brain? Sure, you do. We've all had 324 days (and counting) to witness the tragic results.

Late last week, lots of people were alarmed at Donald Trump's slurred words during a policy address about Jerusalem. "God bless the United Shhh-tates," the president woozed, and Twitter went crazy.

Was it ill-fitting dentures? Was it a momentary brain fart? Was it 120 ounces of aspartame-infused, caramel-colored, fizzy-water sloshing inside the poor man's belly? While others warned of something more neurologically profound, White House spokesman Raj Shah responded dismissively: "His throat was dry. There's nothing to it."

Believe that if you want to. But the howling was loud enough that White House officials did promise that Trump will get a head-to-toe medical exam early next year at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, just like normal presidents do.

All we've had to go on so far is a 2015 letter from Trump's longtime personal physician, named Dr. Harold Bornstein, who asserted that his paunchy patient would "unequivocally" be "the healthiest individual ever elected to the presidency."

Yeah, right.

Now that the real doctors are in, the next question will be whether their exam reports will ever be released to the public — or held in permanent limbo like the president's tax returns. We shall see.

In the meantime, there is no stopping Trump watchers from drawing their own conclusions based on the president's erratic behavior and common sense. Judd Apatow is only the latest to weigh in.

Speaking at 92Y on Manhattan's Upper East Side, the prolific director, who has worked with thousands of actors at a wide variety of throat-lubrication levels, called the dry-mouth assertion utterly preposterous. Apatow's personal experience tells him something far more serious is happening here.

"My grandmother, who's 94 and in assisted living, talks like that," he said. "I certainly love her but would also not want her to be the president."

DO YOU AGREE?

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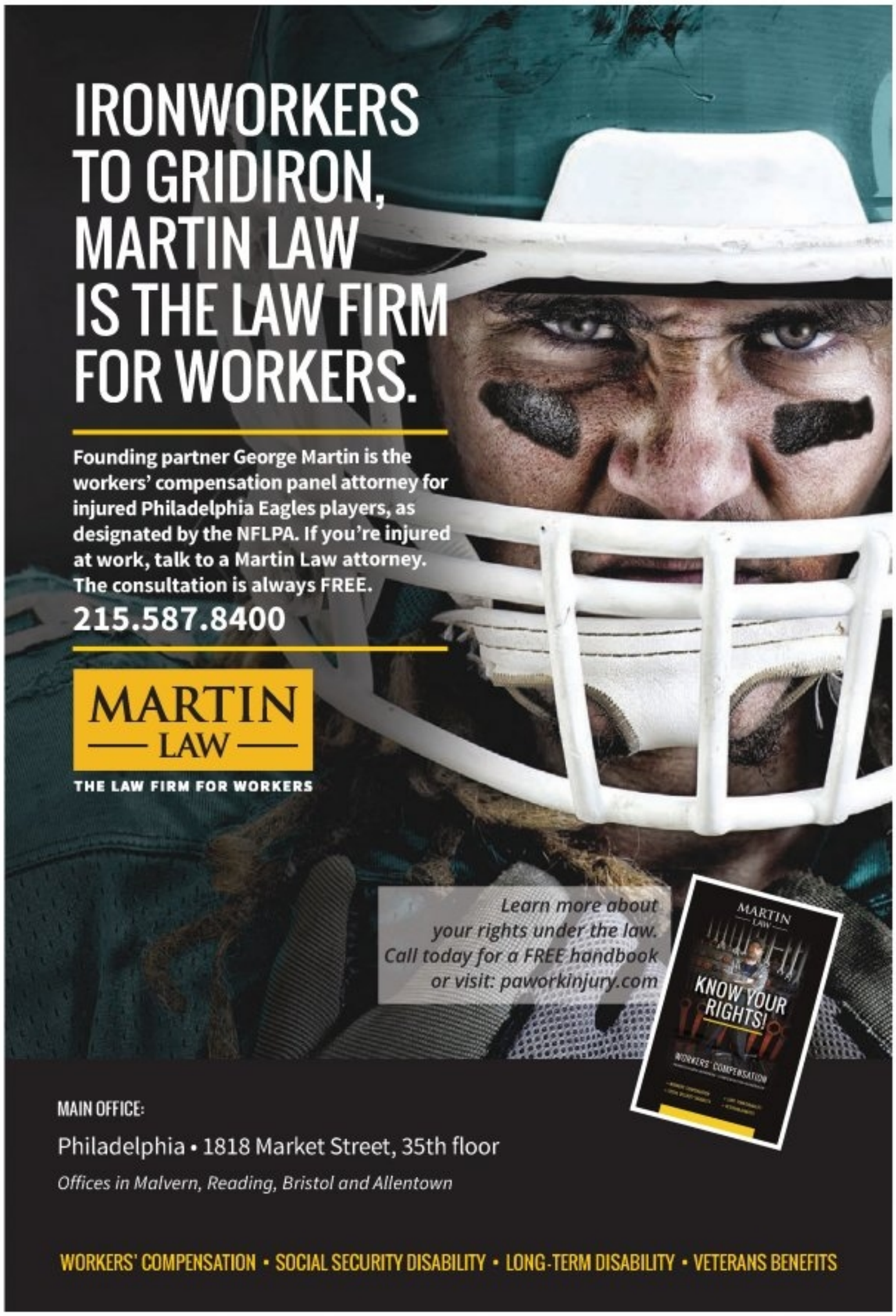
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GREAT BRITAIN

Former British celebrity publicist Max Clifford dies in prison

Britain's best-known publicist, Max Clifford, died on Sunday after collapsing in prison, where he was serving an eight-year sentence for indecently assaulting teenage girls in the 1970s and 1980s.

Britain's justice ministry said he had died in hospital. "As with all deaths in custody there will be an investigation by the independent Prisons and Probation Ombudsman. Our condolences are with Mr. Clifford's family at this difficult time," a prison service spokeswoman said in a statement.

The BBC said it understood that the 74-year-old had collapsed in his cell on Thursday while trying to clean it, then again the following day.

Clifford's conviction in 2014 was the first from an inquiry into historical sex abuse triggered by reports that the late BBC TV presenter Jimmy Savile had been a prolific sex offender for decades.

Max Clifford GETTY IMAGES

Clifford, whose clients had included TV music mogul Simon Powell and U.S. boxer Muhammad Ali, was found guilty of eight counts of indecently assaulting four girls aged 14 to 19 between 1977 and 1984.

He had denied all charges, saying the allegations were "utterly repulsive" lies by fantasists and opportunists.

REUTERS

After Brexit, UK aims for trade deal with EU that tops Canada pact

Theresa May, U.K. prime minister, gestures while speaking during a news conference at the European Commission building in Brussels, Belgium. GETTY IMAGES

Despite Davis striking a confident tone, EU officials say they will only launch negotiations on a legally binding treaty after Britain leaves and becomes a "third country," according to draft negotiating guidelines.

After securing an initial agreement on Friday to move Brexit talks to a second phase, Prime Minister Theresa May is keen to start discussing future ties with the EU, and especially the type of trading agreement to try to offer greater certainty for businesses.

"It's not that complicated, it comes right back to the alignment point. ... We start in full alignment, we start in complete convergence so we can work it out from there," Davis told the BBC's Andrew Marr show.

"The thing is how we manage divergence so it doesn't undercut the access to the market," he said, describing his preferred deal as "Canada plus plus plus".

The EU has been considering a post-Brexit free trade deal with Britain along the lines of one agreed last year with Canada.

But the UK economy is nearly twice the size of Canada's and British officials have said that their current alignment with EU standards and much closer trading links with the continent give them scope for an even deeper relationship.

May has been hailed by many in her deeply divided Conservative party for rescuing the agreement to unlock the Brexit talks by offering EU member Ireland and her allies in Northern Ireland a pledge to avoid any return of a hard border.

By playing with the wording, May agreed that if the two sides failed to agree an overall Brexit deal, the United Kingdom would keep "full alignment" with those rules of the EU's single market that help cooperation between Ireland's north and south.

Davis described the commitment as more of a "statement of intent" than a legally binding measure — something that might reassure hardline Brexit campaigners who fear that it could imply that Britain was leaving the EU in name only. REUTERS

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10 Celebrities who used gestational surrogates

Many famous women have opened up about their struggles with infertility, from Kim Kardashian to Tyra Banks. Today, we're highlighting celebrities who have opted to use gestational surrogates. METRO

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Angela Bassett

The actress and husband Courtney B. Vance welcomed twins Slater Josiah and Bronwyn Golden via surrogate in 2006, after years of failed fertility treatments.

Camille Grammer

The "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" star welcomed her two children with "Frasier" alum Kelsey Grammer — Jude Gordon and Mason Olivia — via surrogate.

Elizabeth Banks

The "Hunger Games" actress and her husband, Max Handelman, have welcomed two sons via surrogacy: Felix and Magnus.

Ellen Pompeo

The "Grey's Anatomy" actress welcomed her second child via surrogate in 2014, and announced the news on Instagram.

Kim Kardashian

The reality star and her husband, Kanye West, opted for a surrogate to welcome their third child, due in January, after Kardashian's two high-risk pregnancies.

Lucy Liu

In 2015, the "Elementary" star introduced her son, Rockwell Lloyd Liu, via Instagram. Her rep confirmed to Us Weekly that he had been carried by gestational surrogate.

Nicole Kidman

After the "Big Little Lies" actress gave birth to daughter Sunday in 2008, she and husband Keith Urban welcomed daughter Faith via surrogacy in 2010.

Jordana Brewster

The "Fast and the Furious" actress welcomed sons Julian and Rowan via surrogacy with husband Andrew Form.

Sarah Jessica Parker

The "Divorce" actress and husband Matthew Broderick turned to gestational surrogacy after the birth of son James Wilkie. In 2009 they welcomed twins Marion and Tabitha.

Tyra Banks

After failed IVF treatments, Banks and her then-boyfriend Erik Asla welcomed son York Banks Asla via surrogate in January 2016.

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Ready for some $h#!-scary comedy that's not CNN? Watch 'Future Man'

"Future Man" stars Eliza Coupe (from the future) and Josh Hutcherson (the janitor-turned-hero). HULU

Seth Rogen plays on all of our fears as he avenges the universe.

JOSÉ BARRETO
MWN
letters@metro.us

Seth Rogen is the comedy genius behind everything from Pumbaa's voice (in the upcoming live-action "Lion King") to each iteration of "Kung Fu Panda." Not to mention "The Interview," which drew the U.S. as close to war with North Korea as possible — pre-Trump, that is.

His latest (as producer) is "Future Man," a new Hulu series about a janitor who lives with his parents and is destined to save the world because of his epic

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score on a computer game. It's the apocalypse, but funny.

What is it about the world ending that is so appealing?
I think everyone likes to hallucinate about what might happen at that moment. As a child, I would think about what it would be like to have the ability to end the world. As an adult, I've been fascinated by the subject and it's great to do comedy about something that terrifies everyone.

Was "Future Man" always meant to be a series?
It was conceived first as a movie. But almost at the end we realized that it worked more as a pilot of something that we were interested in seeing later.

How did you decide on Josh Hutcherson as the star?
A couple of years ago we made a movie called "The Disaster Artist" — Josh had a very small role there but was really funny. I was impressed by his ability to give so much laughter in such a short time.

Do you worry about falling into tropes when you delve back into the world of the '80s and '90s?
I always use things that I've grown up with. Pop culture from the '80s and '90s will always be in my projects. Yes, I must say that there are films that I always return to and, in fact, are the ones that prompted me to do this. Some of them are "Pulp Fiction" or "Reservoir Dogs," both by Quentin Tarantino. References aren't things we think about a lot because they come out naturally — they're elements that we grew up with.

What are your dream roles?
I want to be in "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit." I'd like to join the police unit because I think I have everything it takes to be good. In every episode I see, I feel I can help. [Laughs]

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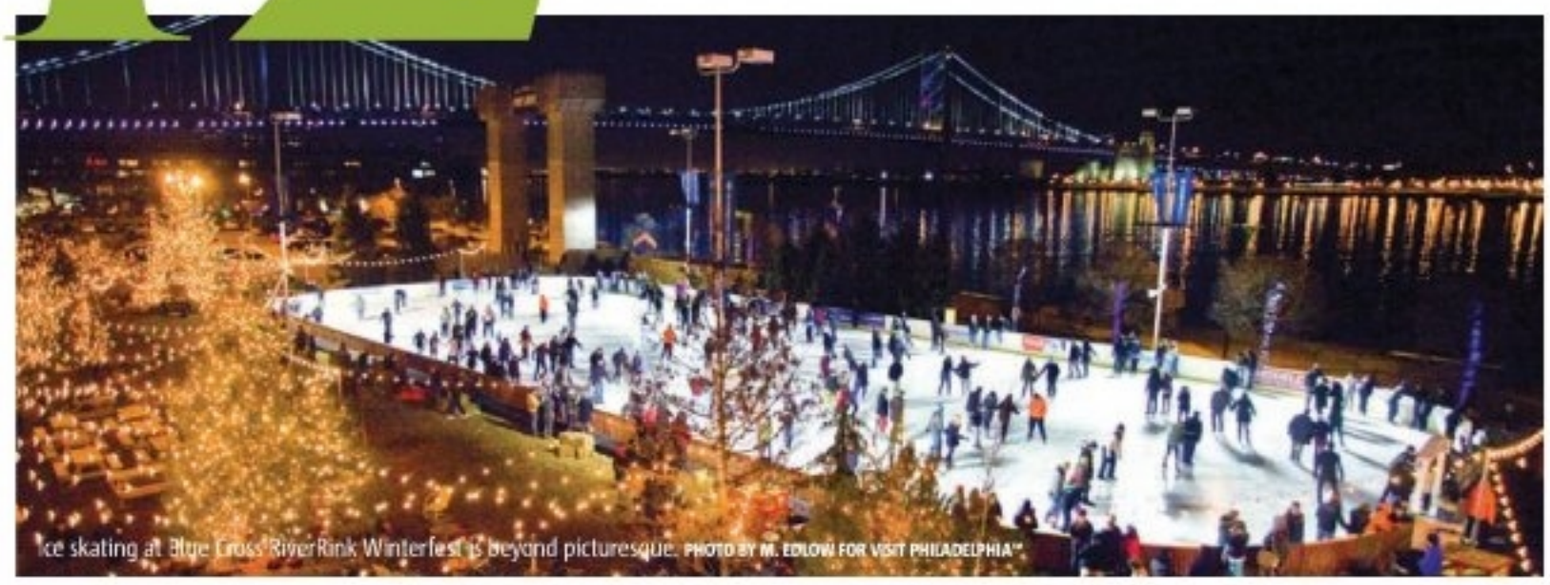

Ice skating at Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest is beyond picturesque. PHOTO BY M. EDLOW FOR VISIT PHILADELPHIA™

Not in the Christmas spirit yet? This list of fun holiday activities might help.

JENNIFER LOGUE
@jenniferlogue
jennifer.logue@metro.us

Christmas is nearly here, and if you're not feeling the Christmas cheer just yet, maybe you just need to get out there and do some fun holiday activities. From ice skating at Blue Cross RiverRink Winterfest to seeing "The Nutcracker" to simply taking a stroll around Christmas Village in LOVE Park, there's something to get into the holiday spirit no matter what your style or budget.

Ice Skating at BlueCross RiverRink Winterfest

Year five is better than ever! Aside from ice-skating to the beat of pop music, you can also warm up by the fire pits, try your hand at different arcade games, enjoy sweet treats from Franklin Fountain's Confectionary Cabin in addition to savory eats from Garces and Chickie

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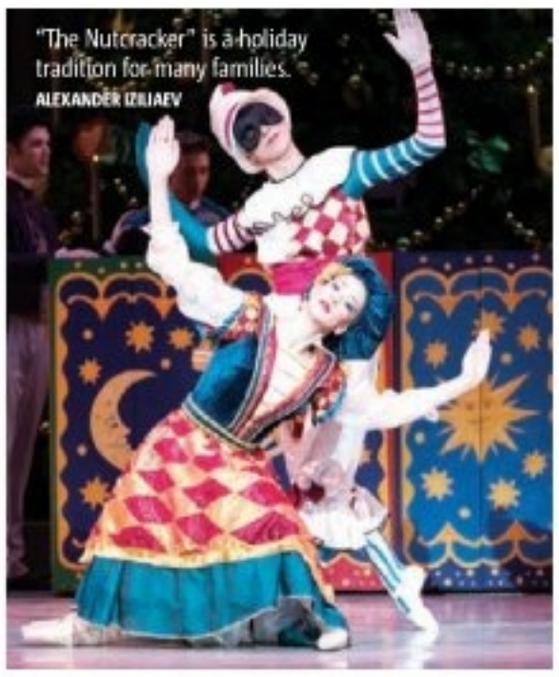
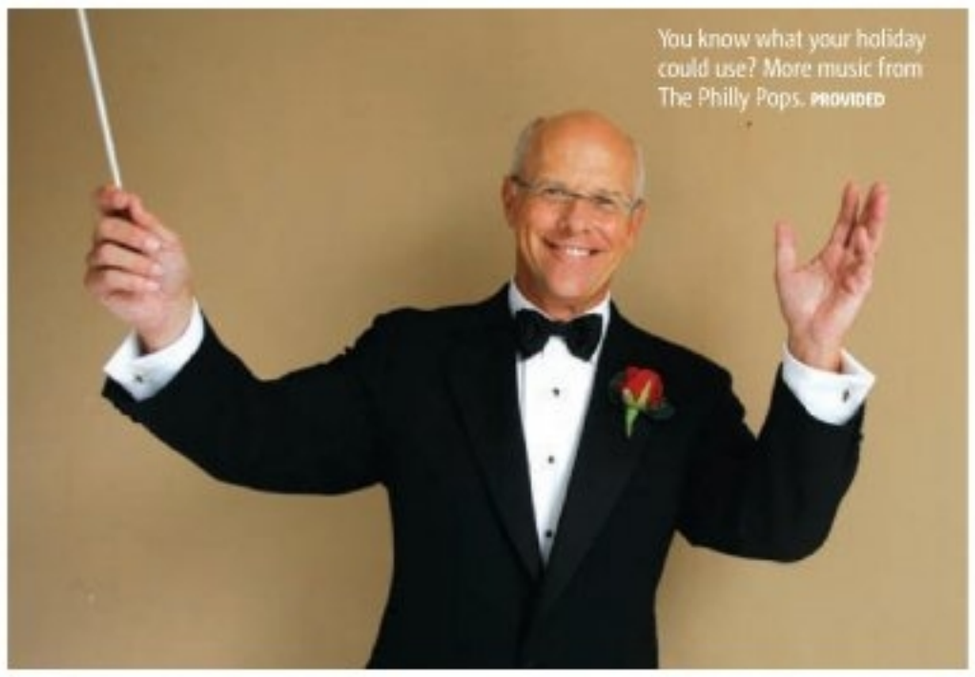

"The Nutcracker" is a holiday tradition for many families. ALEXANDER IZILIAEV


You know what your holiday could use? More music from The Philly Pops. PROVIDED

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George Balanchine's "The Nutcracker"

You can't go wrong with a classic. Performed by the PA Ballet, "The Nutcracker" returns to the Academy of Music to tell the tale of Clare and her journey to the land of sweets. With exquisite dancing, snowflakes, giant Christmas trees and magical music, it's impossible to not feel the holiday spirit seeing this.

Through Dec. 31
Academy of Music
Broad & Locust Streets
paballet.org

A Philly Pops Christmas

Energetic conductor Michael Krajewski leads the Philly Pops in their annual holiday concert. This year features vocalist Justin Hopkins, The Philadelphia Boys Choir, The Philly Pops Festival Chorus and the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas Gospel Choir. There will even be a musical performance of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," to add even more fun to the affair.

Through Dec. 19
Broad & Spruce Streets
phillypops.org

Miracle on 13th St.

Want to warm the heart with community spirit? Check out the Christmas lights on th 1600 block of S. 13th Street in South Philadelphia, aka Miracle on 13th Street. Taking a stroll on any given night through Jan. 1 doesn't cost a thing and is sure to provide plenty of holiday cheer to any Instagram feed.

Through Jan. 1
1600 S. 13th Street
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Deck the Hall Light Show

You could spend hours walking around Dilworth Park for your holiday fix with ice skating, their stunning Christmas tree and more. But if you don't do anything else, be sure to check out the

continued on page 18

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B300-Bell Jr., Ronald • B301-Belcher, Claire • B331-Ayers, Sherelle • B363-Ralls, Daniel • B368-Orozco, Augusto • B382-Brown, Calvin
B386-Bradley, Gloria • B387-Porterfield, Catherine • B390-Duncan, Deshawn • B415-Cary, Alaysia • B463-Mason, John
B478-Seyfullah, Nacijobah • B486-Burgos, Midlin • B534-Cunningham, Regina • B539-Madden, Denise • C592-Miles, Minerva
C658-Pringle, Dennin • C666-Sutton, Ashley • C704-Strickland, Danina • C725-Jenkins, Tiffany • C728-Blalock, Deborah • C754-Brown, David
C762-Parks, Reginald • C766-Manuga, Richard • C776-Tyree, Ronald • C789-Rucker, Angela • C915-Williams, Danielle • A143- Danish, Steve.
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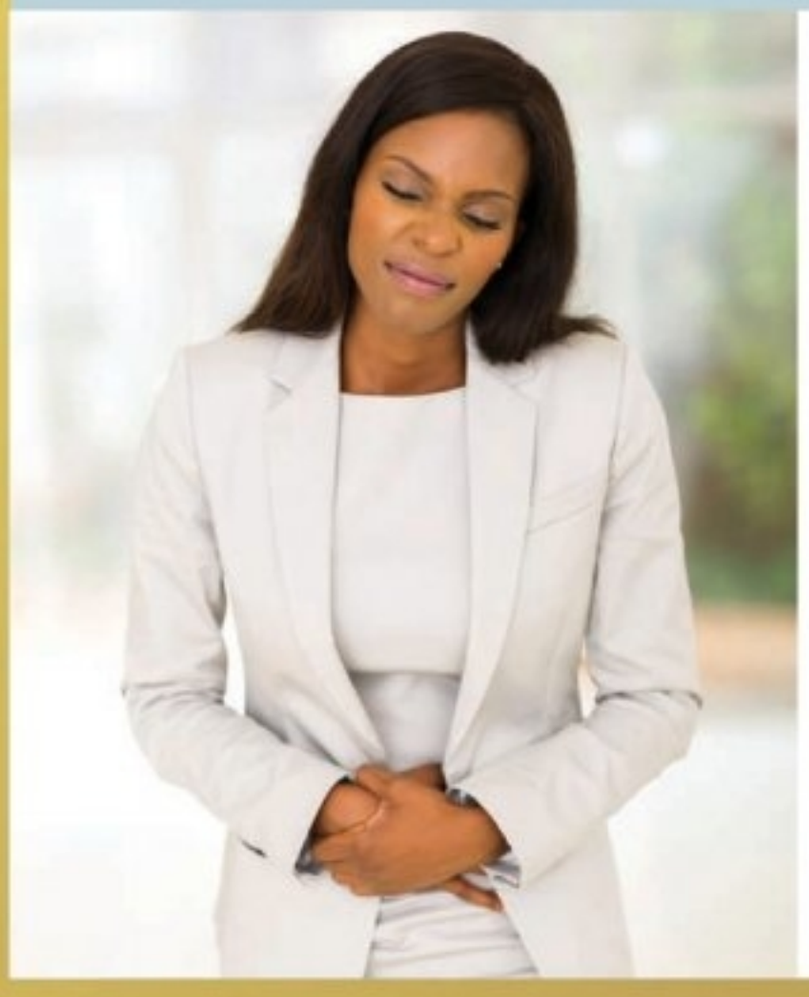
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Seeing the Macy's Christmas Light show is pretty and free.
PHOTO BY J. FUSCO FOR VISIT PHILADELPHIA®

Deck the Hall Light Show through Jan. 1, which takes place every half hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. through 8: 30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, with more shows Fridays through Sundays.
Through Jan. 1
15th & Market Streets
dilworthpark.org

Christmas Village

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Through Dec. 24
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philachristmas.com

Historic Holiday Nights

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Thursdays through Dec. 28
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oldcitydistrict.org

Macy's Christmas Light Show

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137 W. Knowlton Road, Media, linvilla.com

The Electric Spectacle Holiday Light Show at Franklin Square is sure to electrify your holiday season.
PHOTOS BY JEFF FUSCO FOR HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA INC.

The Electric Spectacle Holiday Light Show

You have until the end of December to take in the beauty of the Franklin Square Electrical Spectacle Holiday Light Show. The park twinkles with 50,000 lights set to music. Free shows happen every 30 minutes between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. on weeknights and 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
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Notice is hereby given that Storage King USA will sell the contents of the storage units listed below at a public auction to satisfy a lien placed on the contents pursuant to 73 PS. The sales will take place on 12/15/17. The sale will be conducted on StorageStuff.Bid, under the guidance of Christopher Ross (AU005857) on behalf of the facilities' mgmnt. Units will be available for viewing prior to the sale on StorageStuff.Bid. Contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder. A 10% buyer's premium will be charged and $100 (units larger than 150 sq ft will be more) cleaning deposit per unit. All sales are final. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale or to refuse any bids. The property to be sold is described as "general household items" unless otherwise noted. Storage King USA at 3100 E. Price St., Philadelphia PA 19134 will list storage units on the website StorageStuff.Bid at 11:00 a.m. 12/15/17 or up to 7 days prior to this date.
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Byron Stevenson unit #1177 Household Items • Kimberly Sanders unit #1366 TV • Jewell Booker unit #2022 TV, Chairs, Heater, Microwave
James Cooper unit #2023 Wood bed frames, Pictures, Bookcase, Heater • Angel Reed unit #2029 Bath, Bed frames • Angela Cherry unit #2067 Dishes, Tv Cradle unit #2082 Wood Bed Frame, games, boxes, fan • Raheem Jackson unit #2099 bags of clothes, electrics, ect
Chakeeta Edwards unit #2126 Mini Black Fridge,Mirrors • Dominique Weeks unit #2128 boxes, and bags of clothes, rectangular wall mirror
Marlon Jamison unit #2138 Toddler play kitchen, electrical black and yellow cor, toys • Roberto Rivera unit #2146 Box, bag, blender white bench
Jacques Brooks unit #2177 Household Items • Ivy Thomas unit #2207 Household Items • Angela Lane unit #2243 Vacuum cleaner, boxes, toys, Clothes
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Rhonda Lancaster (1124), Rhonda Lancaster (3070), Erika Pleasant (3134), Hishmat A Gazzaz (3013), Camille Carrion Perez (1003), Barbara Simpler (1133).

City Hall in Philadelphia has a free "Deck the Hall" light show you should check out.
PHOTO BY JEFF FUSCO FOR VISIT PHILADELPHIA®

A Longwood Christmas

Want to light up your Christmas even more? Check out "A Longwood Christmas" at Longwood Gardens, which features 500,000 lights and 50 trimmed trees. Inspired by the gardens of Versailles, the experience is downright enchanting, complete with fountains, holiday performances, wreaths and so much more.
Through Jan. 7, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, longwoodgardens.org

Tippler's Tour: Yuletide Cheers & Beers

This holiday activity is definitely for the 21+ crowd. Take a tour of Historic Philadelphia led by a British soldier from 1777, who recounts the time the British spent occupying Philadelphia. You'll pay a visit to four different pubs in two hours. Winter beers and snacks are included in the tour.
Thursdays through Dec. 28 6th & Market Streets historicphiladelphia.org

Holiday Garden Railway

It's just not the holidays without seeing cool model trains. Morris Arboretum's Holiday Garden Railway features a quarter-mile of model-train track, seven loops and tunnels, 15 rail lines and model trains that rush past replicas of Philly landmarks. What more could a train lover ask for?
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Using humanity as a marketing tool

The firm #paid pairs companies with web influencers to help appeal to followers. ISTOCK

How social-media influencers have changed the face of advertising.

PAT KING
@MetroPhilly
patrick.king@metro.us

In our fast-paced ADD-driven society, one thing has become abundantly clear: Traditional advertising is not as effective as it used to be.

People do not trust those old "Mad Men" style ad placements designed by big agencies in order to cram products down our throats. The buyer-seller relationship used to be involuntary, to some degree. Did anyone really enjoy Sea Monkeys, Chia Pets or the musical stylings of the Baha Men? The short answer is: No. Today, people can see these bulls—t boardroom tactics for what they really are and choose to engage more actively with social-media influencers to get recommendations on everyday products.

Influencers are everyday people turned huge sensations online. By using platforms like Instagram, Facebook, and Snapchat, these e-famous folks are paid to post about their favorite products to their throngs of followers. This trend has revolutionized the marketing industry and you can attribute it to one central belief: Everyday people respond to humanity. More people will buy something a "friend" recommends than an actual Kardashian.

CSO Adam Rivietz recognized this and co-founded his firm, #Paid, to help companies pair up with popular web influencers to help sell products to followers. These companies aren't rinky-dink mom and pops, either; #Paid has worked with some of the biggest brands out there, like Coca-Cola, Microsoft, and Airbnb. So why do these huge international names look for regular people to sell their products instead of, say, celebrities?

"[Celebrities] are trying to parlay their real-world fame online, whereas an influencer's entire fame was built online," explains Rivietz, "across the board if you compare a traditional celebrity with an influencer, of the same follower count, the engagement rates are always higher from an influencer."

One of #Paid's biggest success stories is Christian Collins, aka @WeeklyChris. Once a shy teen from the west coast of Canada, Collins started posting videos on YouTube and gained a huge following. He now has 3.6 million followers on Instagram, 1.69 million followers on Twitter and multiple endorsements from companies that pay him to post his recommendations to his followers that value his opinion.

"In terms of branding, it works very well when there's a natural, organic relationship with the brand," Collins says, "because there's such an intimate relationship with my followers, and it's something I genuinely enjoy, it would be like your best friend recommending something."

Rivietz believes if a brand has to choose between a self-made social-media-savvy influencer, like Collins, or a busy celebrity who could change their brand allegiance overnight, the choice is a no-brainer. "Influencers are content creators first. That's why they've risen to the top of social media."

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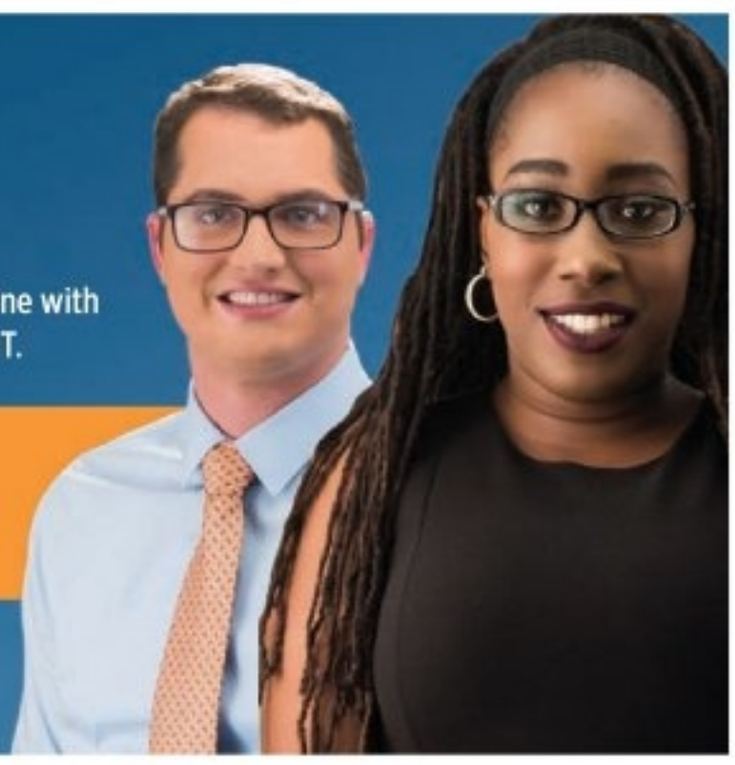

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Don't fall into the parent trap

Why supporting an adult child will cost the both of you.

NerdWallet is a personal finance website.

You can't blame parents for wanting to help their adult children. But when they fork over cash for their kids' daily living expenses, parents may jeopardize their children's long-term financial success — and put their own retirement at risk. Fifty-six percent of parents with children age 18 or older said they've paid for their adult children's groceries, 40% have covered their health insurance and 21% have paid for rent or housing, according to a new NerdWallet survey, conducted by Harris Poll, of 656 parents with children age 18 and older. Even if your bank account can withstand these headwinds, giving money isn't a great way to teach your child financial savvy. Luckily, there are ways for you and your child to achieve a healthier relationship with money — one in which your child gains financial independence and you get your retirement savings on track. Consider these steps:

1 Figure out why
The first step is identifying why you're providing the support. Helping kids is "virtually always born out of love and concern," says Susan Zimmerman, a chartered financial consultant, marriage and family therapist and co-founder of Mindful Asset Planning, in Apple Valley, Minnesota. Often, a secondary driver is a desire to keep your child happy. Wanting to please others isn't necessarily wrong, but "you can end up having too much of a good thing." Keep that in mind as you take the next steps to trim back your financial aid.

2 Get clarity on your own finances
Before explaining the new arrangement to your adult child, figure out where you stand in terms of retirement savings. If you understand your money picture, you can tell your child exactly why you need to cut back. Plus, it's a good way to model smart financial behavior.

The parental instinct is to help out your children. Here's how to do so without detriment to yourself and your child. ISTOCK

3 Have the conversation
The next step is to talk with your child. This could be a touchy topic, so give him or her fair warning, Zimmerman says.

Once you're together, explain why your financial assistance will need to stop. Zimmerman suggests saying something like this: "We calculated our income needs for retirement, and we're falling short. That's why we need to start preserving the little bit of excess that we have."

4 Create a timeline
Give your child some time to prepare by setting a date for when your contributions will end.

5 Offer other types of support
"Sometimes the better thing for the wealthy parent to do is to start connecting those children to the many resources that exist now: career counseling, life coaching, financial counseling," Zimmerman says.

That way, she says, you can tell your child: "I want you to feel the joy of experiencing achievement and success, however you define it for yourself." ANDREA COOMBES

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3 things we saw as Eagles down Rams, lose Wentz

The Eagles clinch the NFC East with a win over the Rams.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Suddenly, winning or losing in Los Angeles became irrelevant.

The Eagles were marching down the field as they looked to come back in a shoot out with five lead changes, but no one was focused on the game.

Carson Wentz, the leading candidate for NFL MVP exited Sunday's 43-35 win with a knee injury and did not return. But somehow the defense tightened up and Nick Foles led the offense just enough to prevail Sunday and win the NFC East.

Here are three things we saw in what may have been the game of the year in the NFL:

1 The big picture

First thing first — the Eagles could be in big trouble if Wentz has to miss any significant time. Their next three games, against the Giants Raiders and Cowboys, are relevant in the team's trek toward earning a first round bye and home field advantage. Wins in the three games are imperative toward setting the Eagles up for a road to the Super Bowl.

The Birds also, even if they can win with Nick Foles in the coming weeks, can't win a Super Bowl without their elite passer — who was 23-for-41 for 291 yards and four touchdowns before he was knocked out of the game. The news wasn't promising after the game.

After two remarkably quick Rams touchdowns to start the second half Sunday the Eagles first drew two unsportsman-like conduct penalties and found themselves in a fourth and goal inside the three yard line. With time, Wentz set a franchise record with his 33rd touchdown pass of the season, finding Alshon Jeffery in the end zone to go ahead 31-28. And then Wentz jogged into the locker room. Todd Gurley scored his second touchdown of the game as the Rams went ahead yet again, 35-31. Minutes later news broke of Wentz' knee injury, his day would be done after three quarters. Foles led the Eagles on a drive to add a field goal, trailing by just one with just under 10 minutes to go.

Chris Long had a huge strip sack on the Rams' ensuing drive, recovered by McLeod eventually led to an Elliot field goal and 37-35 Eagles advantage. The defense got the ball back and a clutch throw and pass on third down to Jeffery clinched the win.

2 More setbacks for Birds

Nelson Agholor's dreadful 2016 self reared its ugly head on the third play of the game, as a bobbled pass over the middle led to a Kavyon Webster interception to set up the Rams in Eagles territory. A 30-yard Gurley scamper and goalline touchdown dive gave L.A. an early 7-0 lead.

Three horribly missed tackles on a 64-yard pass to Cooper Kupp put the Rams back on the doorstep of points. After a near interception by Nigel Bradham, Jared Goff found paydirt with a short pass to Kupp again chipping into Philly's advantage.

The Rams came out of the locker room ferocious and scored a touchdown, thanks to more fierce Gurley running Goff found Watkins to cut the lead to three points. A few plays later with lightning-speed, the Rams special teams unit stifled Donnie Jones, blocking his punt and prancing into the end zone to take the lead 28-24.

3 No Ertz, no problem

Zach Ertz' absence, due to concussion symptoms, was on paper a big hole for the Eagles. But Wentz found his "back up" tight ends three times, making it clear that the 'next man up' mentality is strong with these Eagles.

Running backs Jay Ajayi and Corey Clement looked spry for the Eagles on their second possession, as a 28-yard screen pass to Clement and some tough running from Ajayi helped Wentz march the Birds to the goalline. A six-yard toss to Brent Celek equaled things in the first. His second touchdown pass came in the same quarter, a strike to Burton over the middle.

Later in the second quarter the Eagles moved to a perfect 12-for-12 on fourth and one, as Wentz hit Agholor for a 18-yard catch and run that led to Burton's second touchdown catch and a 21-7 lead for Philly.

A 46-yard pass to Torrey Smith on third down and 11, inside two minutes deep into Los Angeles' territory helped spark yet another important first half scoring drive, this one a Jake Elliott chip shot to preserve a 24-14 lead at the break.

The Eagles overcame some huge hurdles to win the NFC East Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

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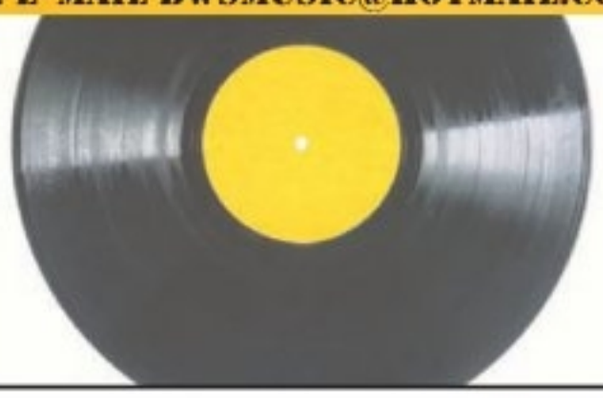

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Villanova will be anointed top team in college basketball again

After beating Big 5 rival La Salle Sunday, the Wildcats will likely garner a No. 1 ranking in the next college basketball polls released.

EVAN MACY
@evan_macy
evan.macy@metro.us

Villanova is back in action against Temple Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

Villanova is 10-0 and started the week ranked No. 4 in the country.

None of this comes as a surprise to even the most casual college basketball fan, as the Wildcats have emerged as one of the most prolific title contenders every season over the last half decade.

But after seeing No. 1 Duke fall to Boston College and No. 2 Kansas fall to Washington earlier this weekend — and seeing senior guard Mikal Bridges emerge as a potential NBA lottery pick this coming summer, the buzz around the 2017-18 Wildcats team is likely to grow and become unavoidably audible as the season transitions into conference play.

A decisive but hard fought 77-68 win at Wells Fargo Center over La Salle Sunday kept them unbeaten and served as an always good Big 5 test. It was one that comes a few days before their Big 5 finale against the 6-2 Temple Owls Wednesday night.

But heading into Big East play Villanova will be the team with the biggest target on its back in all of college basketball.

"We played the next No. 1 team in the country," La Salle head coach John Giannini said after seeing his team lose a narrow halftime lead Sunday afternoon.

With Temple and Hofstra left on the schedule before conference play starts next week against DePaul, the Big East is looking to be one of the most solid conferences in college hoops — though will be lacking any big top 15 threat at least for the time being. The usual suspects Xavier, St. John's and Butler will be strong opponents, as will up and coming Seton Hall and the Patrick Ewing led Georgetown.

Battle tested after winning three games in three games in the Battle 4 Atlantis back in November, they also showed grit in a blow out win against ranked Gonzaga in New York. As Duke, Kansas and Michigan State will have bitter tests in the ACC, SEC and Big 10 respectively, it stands to reason that Nova could maintain the No. 1 seed and be the top overall squad when March arrives and the brackets are revealed.

Which is nothing new for the Wildcats core of seniors led by Mikel Bridges, Phil Booth and Jalen Brunson.

"We're a team that needs a lot of work," Nova head coach Jay Wright said a few weeks ago. "This is a young team for us. Usually we have more juniors and seniors. We have no seniors and we're playing a lot of freshmen so we have a lot of work to do, but I think we have the potential to be a good defensive team."

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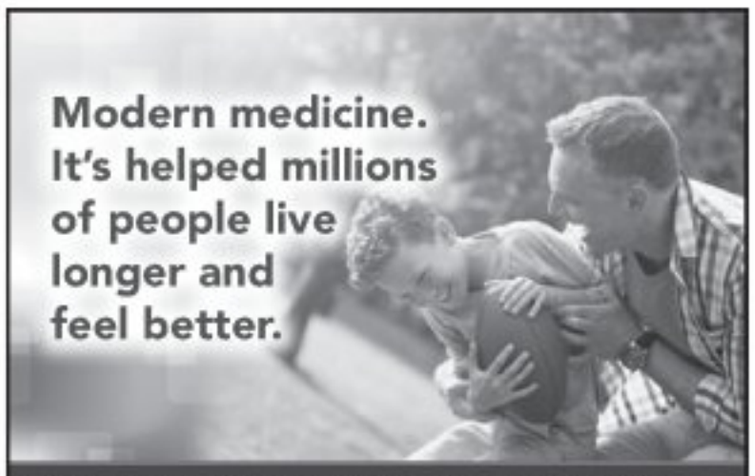

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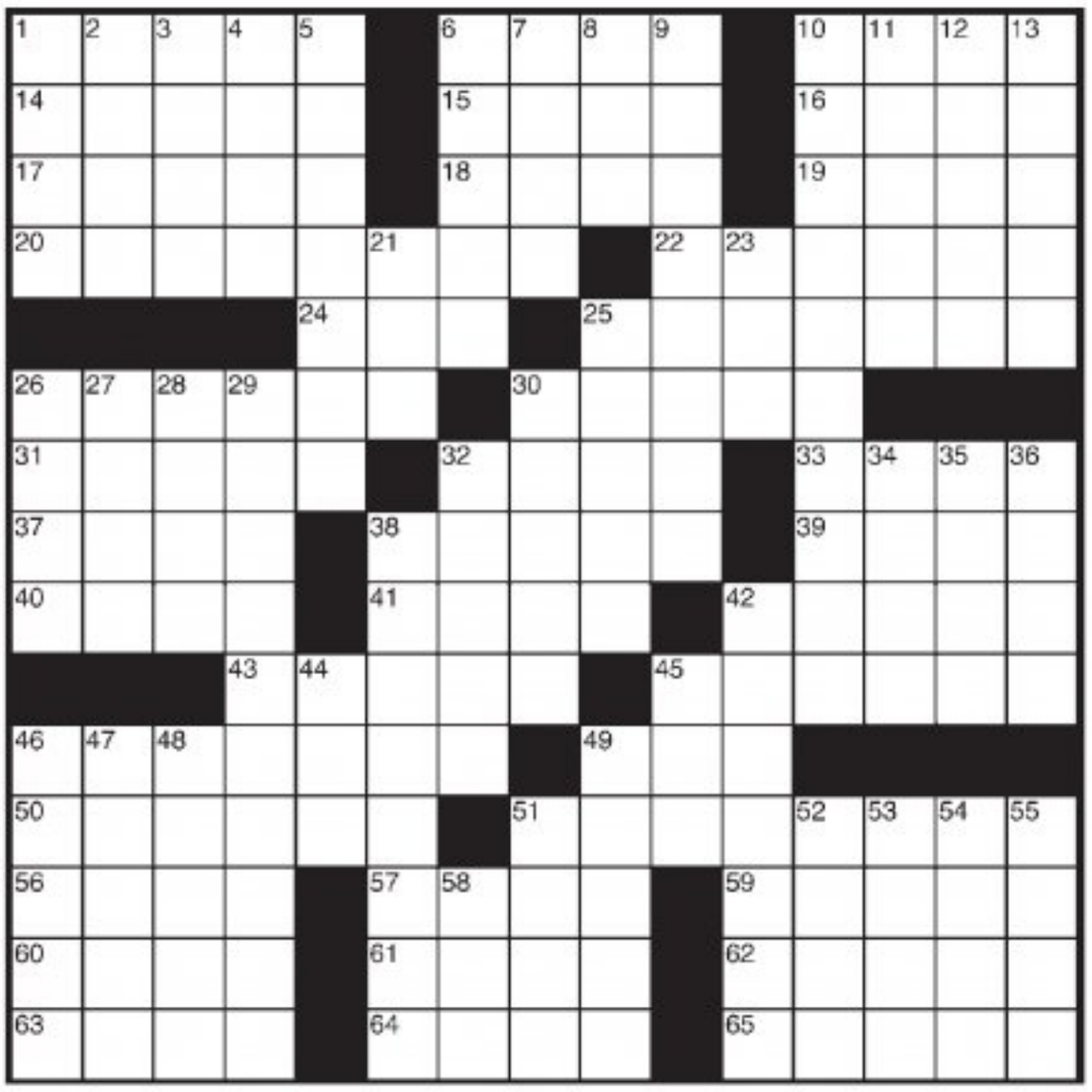
Across
1 Deputy
6 Goldfish
10 Blunt
14 Higher in rank
15 In charge of
16 John Glenn's state
17 Stars in the Big Dipper
18 Denver's st.
19 Billionth, in combos
20 Strenuous effort
22 Soft brimless women's hats
24 Menu phrase (2 wds.)
25 Beat back
26 For some time
30 Desert plants
31 Monsoons
32 Is obstinate
33 TV's "Warrior Princess"
37 Made a hole in one
38 Minor dents
39 Livy contemporary
40 Way
41 Whirlpool
42 Trial figure
43 Walk-on
45 -- Aires
46 Nearly alike
49 Plant sci.
50 Gotten up
51 Pageant winners
56 Ham-on-rye source
57 Pharmacy purchase
59 Copal or mastic
60 Part of A.D.
61 Light brown
62 Helen, in Spanish
63 Summer job seeker
64 Repair a toe
65 Drowse off

Down
1 Place for posies
2 Mountain goat
3 Bay
4 State positively
5 Lake cabins, often
6 Winter drink
7 Home-products brand
8 Aunt or bro.
9 Defends
10 Cervantes hero (2 wds.)
11 Self-move firm (hyph.)
12 Bus routes
13 Set free
21 Henri's island
23 Decide on
25 Tall and lanky
26 Ancient Syria
27 Baylor's city
28 Sped off
29 Vacillation
30 Owned apartment
32 Less cramped
34 Flush with
35 Muchacho
36 Hubbubs
38 Insisted on
42 Fixes a gash
44 Ginger --
45 Elegant accessory
46 Anwar of Egypt
47 "Forsyte Saga" heroine
48 Piglet's creator
49 Started
51 Hamilton's dueling opponent
52 Pass the word
53 Um-hmm (2 wds.)
54 One, in Bonn
55 Dress fastener
58 Electronics co.



metro.us/sudoku

easy

	7					9		5
8	4			7	1	2		
					8	1		4
						6		9
6	3						2	7
9		8						
4		6	9					
		7	1	2			3	8
3		2					9	

hard

1	2		6	7				
4		3			2			
	7					2		4
				4	3	5		
6			7		5			8
		4	1	6				
3		9					7	
			3			9		1
				9	6		8	2

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Set up meetings that will help you address important matters before the year comes to a close. Personal growth and will encourage you to make wise choices.

Taurus Dig deep and find out all you can. Knowledge is power, and knowing how to apply it when faced with someone trying to outdo you will help you gain ground.

Gemini Participate in festivities that will bring you in touch with old friends or colleagues. Express your feelings and offer kind gestures, but don't get talked into something you probably shouldn't do.

Cancer Address personal issues before someone complains or makes demands. Have a plan ready to offset an unsavory choice someone wants you to make.

Leo Make plans to get together with old friends or to go shopping for items you want to purchase before the year ends. Share your feelings with someone you love.

Virgo Be careful how you handle matters pertaining to your home and family. Not everyone will be happy with the limitations you set or criticisms you make.

Libra Get into the spirit of the season. Ask questions and find out how old friends and family are doing. Showing consideration and toward others will make you feel good.

Scorpio Do whatever you can to help those less fortunate. Your effort will be appreciated, and you will discover something or someone that gives you incentive to follow your dream.

Sagittarius Take the time to schmooze with your peers. Being a good listener will help you form advantageous relationships. Update your image and make love a priority.

Capricorn Look at the big picture as well as your expectations. Excessive behavior will lead to personal and emotional loss. Only take on what you can handle.

Aquarius Listen to your heart, not to what others tell you. Someone is likely to offer information that won't apply to your situation or that could end up costing you time.

Pisces Listen to what others have to say. The more information you gather, the easier it will be for you to communicate your thoughts and contributions. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

G	A	B	■	D	R	A	N	O	■	S	A	R	A	H
O	U	I	■	O	I	L	E	R	■	C	L	I	M	E
O	R	D	■	S	T	E	E	P	■	A	L	C	O	A
S	O	I	R	E	E	■	■	H	O	L	I	E	S	T
E	R	N	E	S	■	S	H	A	K	E	N	■	■	■
S	A	G	S	■	M	O	O	N	S	■	C	P	A	S
■	■	■	P	R	O	B	E	S	■	F	L	U	T	E
G	R	E	E	N	S	■	■	■	Y	O	U	B	E	T
N	A	R	C	S	■	C	O	P	I	E	S	■	■	■
P	E	R	T	■	T	R	A	I	N	■	I	D	E	S
■	■	■	I	N	N	A	T	E	■	E	V	E	N	T
B	R	E	V	I	T	Y	■	■	F	R	E	S	C	O
R	O	L	E	X	■	O	C	H	O	A	■	P	O	W
A	I	S	L	E	■	N	O	U	N	S	■	O	R	E
S	L	A	Y	S	■	S	W	E	D	E	■	T	E	D

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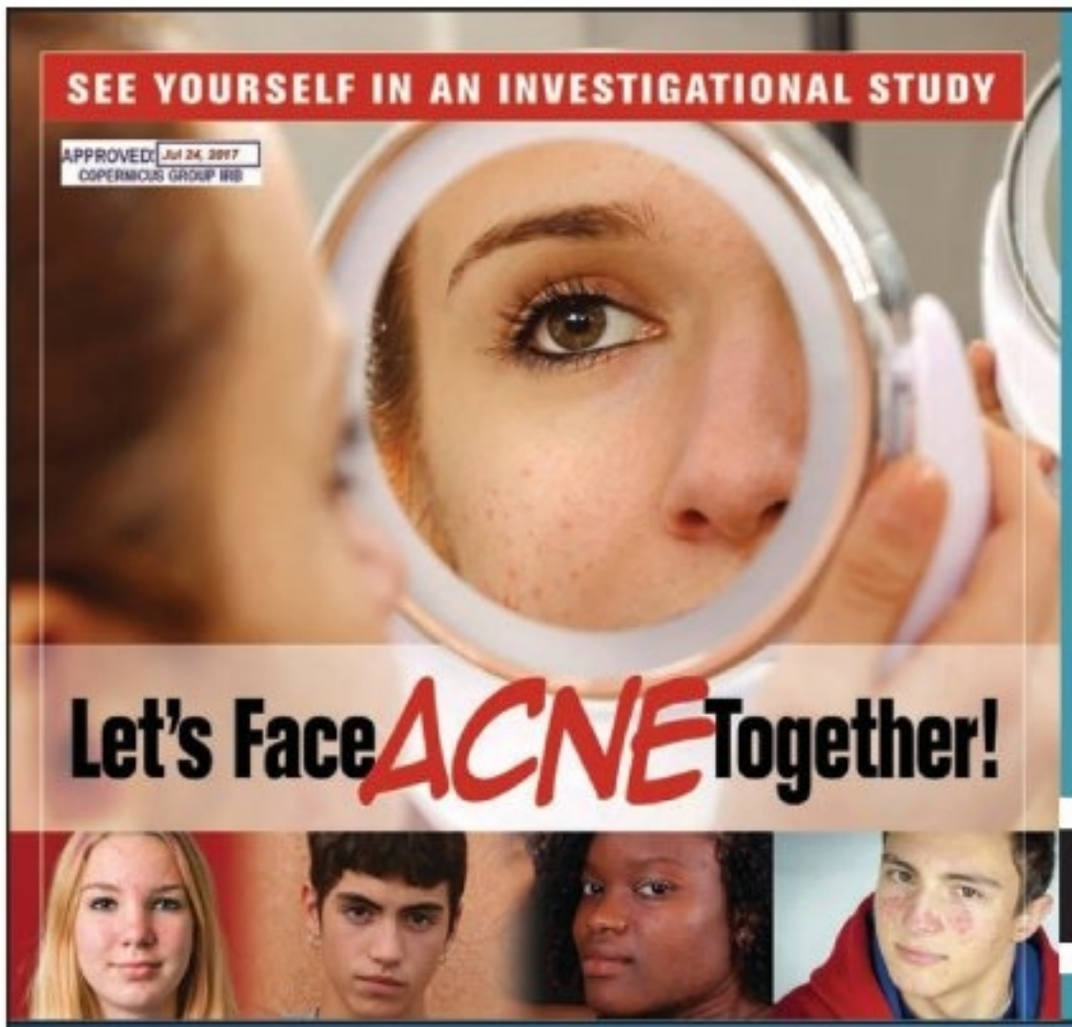

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